AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A device for feeding a material into a cutting/comminution zone of a cutting machine for organic plant materials, particularly for tobacco, comprising:

a body containing a cutter head;

a transporting device which transports wetted tobacco material into the cutting comminution zone and comprises at least one conveyor equipped with at least one transmission belt, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transporting device ~~(5)~~ is coupled with a self-supporting bearing structure defined preferably by guides ~~(7)~~, and the working surface of the transmission belt ~~(14)~~ of ~~the~~ a main conveyor ~~(5a)~~ is situated at an angle beta (β) from -10° to +10° relatively to the horizontal direction, and access space (P) being formed between the transporting device ~~(5)~~ and ~~an immovable~~ the body ~~(1) of~~ containing the cutterhead ~~(2)~~ of the cutting machine when in a servicing position.

2. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transporting device ~~(5)~~ has an upper conveyor ~~(5b)~~ situated over the main conveyor ~~(5a)~~.

3. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 2 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~upper~~ main conveyor ~~(5b)~~ is a vibrating plate.

4. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the main conveyor ~~(5a)~~ and the upper conveyor ~~(5b)~~ are equipped with endless transmission belts ~~(14, 15)~~.

5. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 4 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmission belts ~~(14, 15)~~ are of modular structure.

6. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 4 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the endless transmission belts ~~(14, 15)~~ are made from a material other than an alloy of non-ferrous metals.

7. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 2 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the positions of the front roll ~~(17)~~ and the rear roll ~~(19)~~ of the upper conveyor are independently adjusted in predetermined ranges, preferably at least along the vertical axis from zero to a predetermined maximum value.

8. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 2 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the main conveyor ~~(5a)~~ and the upper conveyor ~~(5b)~~ are situated relative each to other with controlled relative convergence defined by an angle alpha (α) towards the outlet of the transported material.

9. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein vibrating portions ~~(20a, 20b, 20c)~~ are placed under the ~~upper~~ lower surface of the transmission belt ~~(14)~~ of the main conveyor ~~(5a)~~.

10. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the angle beta (β) is from 0° to 5°.

11. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein inclination of the angle beta (β) is along a direction of transportation, towards the outlet.

12. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guides ~~(7)~~ are placed at a height equal at least to the height of the upper conveyor ~~(5b)~~.

13. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 2 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~upper~~ main conveyor ~~(5b)~~ is a vibrating plate, which is moved one of independently ~~and~~/or together with the ~~main~~ upper conveyor ~~(5a)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a drive of the main conveyor ~~(5a)~~ is placed on the rear roll ~~(18)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ a drive of the main conveyor ~~(5a)~~ is placed on the front roll ~~(16)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 2 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a drive of the upper conveyor ~~(5b)~~ is placed on the rear roll ~~(19)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 2 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a drive of the upper conveyor ~~(5b)~~ is placed on the front roll ~~(17)~~.

18. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transporting device ~~(5)~~ is joined with the lower knife ~~(12)~~ of the mouthpiece, the edge of which is positioned in a working position at a near to zero distance (a) from a surface of a cylinder defined by edges of the knives ~~(13)~~ of the cutterhead (2).

19. (Currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a conveyor receiving the cut material from the cutting/comminution zone is placed between the self-supporting load-bearing structure of the transporting device ~~(5)~~ and the floor.